

The driving mission of the Desert Preservation Initiative is to restore native ecosystems using science-based methods to create a sustainable future for the health and beauty of our shared environment.

Would you like to join us to help achieve our mission?

There are several ways you can get involved based on your interests, experience, and available time. Below are the different groups within DPI that drive activity to achieve our mission. We hope you'll find one or more of interest to you and join us as we work to achieve our mission. If you see a place where your skills and interests fit best, please contact DPI at preservethedesert@gmail.com.

AREA	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES	# HOURS PER MONTH
Project Initiation and Management to create a pipeline of removal projects	Work with interested homeowners to secure approval for tamarisk removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas of infestation Review site with homeowners Complete and submit required ACC/Landscape documents Coordinate communication flow between ACC/Landscape and homeowners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-4 Primary months are Oct-May
Field Operations to remove invasives	Remove invasives from work sites during scheduled sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roles aligned with ability and interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut/break down tree branches at work sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tools include saws, lopping shears, by hand, rakes Debris removal (varies by site) Stump spraying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-10 Primary months are October-May
	Manage acquisition and inventory of equipment and other supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with Field Operations lead to ensure adequate equipment and supplies are available for work sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-2
	Maintain equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain cutting and spraying equipment as needed to ensure safe and effective operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0-4 October-May
	Site Photography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentation of site before, during and after removal operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-2 hours October-May
Monitoring to identify regrowth and recovery	Work as a member of the Monitoring team focused on site recovery post removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk project sites post-removal at scheduled three-month intervals to identify any regrowth of tamarisk as well as the emergence of native plants, planning restoration actions Document and report site recovery status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One monthly session 2-4 hours depending on number of sites to visit
Restoration to replant sites as necessary	Work as a member of the Restoration team to plan and execute replanting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For sites identified as requiring replanting to achieve restoration, create plans, acquire plants, conduct planting workdays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-8 hours Primary months are October-June
Community Outreach	Build awareness and support for DPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build relationships with community members municipal leaders, and local conservation organizations Develop updates of DPI informational documents for publication and distribution Pursue publication of local media articles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-8 hours
Fundraising	Secure funds to support DPI operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build fundraising strategy and campaigns to secure personal and business contributions Identify and apply for grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-8 hours
Finance	Manage financial tracking and reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an annual budget and allocation of funds based on annual DPI plans Write checks as necessary Track and report spending against budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 hours